CIVIL COVER SHEET

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(c) Attorneys (Firm Name,	Address, and Telephone Number	,		Attorneys (If Known)					
Stephen T. O'Hanlon, O' Philadelphia, Pa 19102.		Blvd, Ste 1410,							
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Case 2:19-cy-05836-JDW Document 1 Filed 12/12/19 Page 2 of 12 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA DESIGNATION FORM

5836

DESIGNATION FORM

To be used by counsel or pro se plaintiff to indicate the category of the case for the purpose of assignment to the appropriate calendar)

Address of Defendant:	Address of Plaintiff:	c/o O'Hanlon Law Firm, 1	500 JFK Blvd., Ste	e 1410, Phila. PA 19102			
Place of Accident, Incident or Transaction: Philadelphia **RELATED CASE, IF ANY:** Case Number: Judge: Date Terminated: Date Terminated: Civil cases are deemed related when Yes is answered to any of the following questions: 1. Is this case related to properly included in an earlier numbered suit pending or within one year previously terminated action in this court? 2. Does this case involve the same issue of fact or grow out of the same transaction as a prior suit yes No pending or within one year previously terminated action in this court? 3. Does this case involve the validity or infringement of a patent already in suit or any earlier yes No numbered case pending or within one year previously terminated action of this court? 4. Is this case a stoon of successive habeas corpus, social security appeal, or prose civil rights Yes No numbered case pending or within one year previously terminated action of this court except as noted shove. 1. Indemnity Contract, whether the previous of th	Address of Defendant: c/o Law Department, 1515 Arch Street, Philadelphia, PA 19102						
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The effect of this certification is to remove the case from eligibility for arbitration.) Stephen T. O'Hanlon Counsel of record or pro se plaintiff, do hereby certify: Pursuant to Local Civil Rule 53.2, § 3(c) (2), that to the best of my knowledge and belief, the damages recoverable in this civil action case exceed the sum of \$150,000.00 exclusive of interest and costs: Relief other than monetary damages is sought. DATE: 12/12/2019 Sign here if applicable Attorney-at-Law / Pro Se Plaintiff Attorney I.D. # (if applicable)	(Please specify):						
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IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

CASE MANAGEMENT TRACK DESIGNATION FORM

Wilner F	IERRE
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CIVIL ACTION

NO.

Plo CLARKE, et al.

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5836

In accordance with the Civil Justice Expense and Delay Reduction Plan of this court, counsel for plaintiff shall complete a Case Management Track Designation Form in all civil cases at the time of filing the complaint and serve a copy on all defendants. (See § 1:03 of the plan set forth on the reverse side of this form.) In the event that a defendant does not agree with the plaintiff regarding said designation, that defendant shall, with its first appearance, submit to the clerk of court and serve on the plaintiff and all other parties, a Case Management Track Designation Form specifying the track to which that defendant believes the case should be assigned.

SELECT ONE OF THE FOLLOWING CASE MANAGEMENT TRACKS:

Habeas Corpus – Cases brought under 28 U.S.C. § 2241 through § 2255.	())
Social Security – Cases requesting review of a decision of the Secretary of Health and Human Services denying plaintiff Social Security Benefits.	())
Arbitration – Cases required to be designated for arbitration under Local Civil Rule 53.2	2. ())
Asbestos – Cases involving claims for personal injury or property damage from exposure to asbestos.)
Special Management - Cases that do not fall into tracks (a) through (d) that are		

(e) Special Management – Cases that do not fall into tracks (a) through (d) that are commonly referred to as complex and that need special or intense management by the court. (See reverse side of this form for a detailed explanation of special management cases.)

(f) Standard Management – Cases that do not fall into any one of the other tracks.

 12 / 12 / 19
 STEPHEN O'HANGON
 Phantiff

 Date
 Attorney-at-law
 Attorney for

 267 · 546 · 9066
 215 · 563 · 6617
 Steve@ohanlonlow/firm.com

Telephone FAX Number E-Mail Address

(Civ. 660) 10/02

DEC 12 2019

Kyon

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

WILNER PIERRE	CIVIL ACTION		
VS. POLICE OFFICER CLARKE, (BADGE NUMBER 1763) -and-	NO. JURY TRIAL DEMANDED	19	5836
POLICE OFFICER JOHN/JANE DOE, Defendants	•		

COMPLAINT AND JURY DEMAND

Plaintiff, Wilner Pierre, by and through his undersigned counsel, The O'Hanlon Law Firm, P.C., hereby demands a trial by jury and complains against the above-captioned Defendants in their individual capacitates as follows:

Statement of Claim and Jurisdiction

- 1. This is an action for money damages brought pursuant to 42 U.S.C. §§ 1983 and 1988 and the Fourth Amendment to the United States Constitution and under the common law of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania against Defendant Officers in their individual capacities. Jurisdiction is based upon 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 and 1343 and on the state law claims elucidated herein and pendent jurisdiction to entertain claims arising under federal law pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1367.
- 2. It is alleged that the individual police officer Defendants made an unreasonable seizure of the person and property of Plaintiff violating his rights under the Fourth Amendment

to the United States Constitution and that Defendants also violated Pennsylvania tort law by falsely arresting and imprisoning Plaintiff.

Parties

- 3. Wilner Pierre (hereinafter "Plaintiff") is a citizen of the United States and at all times relevant to the claims arising herein was a citizen of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and resident of Philadelphia County.
- 4. On May 31, 2019, Defendant Officers, Officer Clarke (25th District, Badge # 1763) and his partner (hereinafter "Defendant Officers"), were at all times relevant to this Complaint duly appointed and acting officers of the Police Department of the City of Philadelphia, acting under color of law, to wit, under color of the statutes, ordinances, regulations, policies, customs, and usages of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and/or the City of Philadelphia.

Facts

- 1. On or about May 31, 2019, at approximately 4:00 PM, Plaintiff was operating his vehicle in the area of 4900 Bingham Street, Philadelphia, PA.
- 2. Plaintiff is an Uber driver by trade and on the aforementioned date and time, Plaintiff was transporting several passengers in his vehicle. Plaintiff was following the highlighted GPS route displayed on the Uber application running on his mobile device.
- 3. Plaintiff noticed Defendant Clarke operating a police vehicle immediately ahead of the Plaintiff's vehicle, moving at the exceedingly slow rate of speed of five miles per hour. Defendant Clarke failed to engage his emergency police lights or flashing hazard indicators.
- 4. Plaintiff continued to patiently follow Defendant Clarke for several miles but concluded he must find an alternate route because he was carrying Uber passengers.

- 5. Plaintiff waited until it was safe and proceeded to pass Defendant Clarke on the left without any incident.
- 6. Immediately thereafter, Defendant Clarke put on his police vehicle lights and initiated a traffic stop of Plaintiff's vehicle. Plaintiff pulled off to the side of the road.
- 7. Defendant Clarke approached Plaintiff's vehicle with his partner and asked for Plaintiff's license, proof of insurance, and vehicle registration. As Plaintiff was looking for his license, he asked Defendant Officers why he had been stopped.
- 8. When Plaintiff asked the reason for the stop, Defendant Officers became annoyed and impatient and ordered the Plaintiff out of his vehicle. Plaintiff provided the necessary documentation to Defendants. Defendant Officers ignored the Plaintiff's questions.
- 9. Plaintiff asked why he was being ordered to exit the vehicle, but Defendant Officers ignored Plaintiff's question and again ordered him out of the vehicle.
- 10. Plaintiff complied with Defendant Officers' order to exit his vehicle and Defendant Officers handcuffed Plaintiff and placed him in the back of the police vehicle without reason or justification.
- 11. Defendant Officers removed the Uber passengers from the vehicle and made them stand on the sidewalk nearby.
- 12. Plaintiff had not committed any crime or criminal wrongdoing and Defendant Officers had no warrant, reasonable suspicion, or probable cause to detain or arrest Plaintiff.
- 13. Plaintiff asked Defendants several times why he was being cuffed and detained to which he was told by Defendant Clarke that he would be told why later.

- 14. Additionally, Plaintiff asked whether he was under arrest and Defendant Clarke stated that he was not; and yet, Plaintiff was confined against his will in handcuffs in the back of the police vehicle.
- 15. While Plaintiff was in handcuffs and in the back of the police vehicle Defendant Officers conducted a search of Plaintiff's vehicle. Prior to searching Plaintiff's vehicle, Defendant officers lacked probable cause to search.
- 16. Plaintiff repeatedly asked that Defendant Officers to desist from searching his vehicle but Defendant Officers completely ignored Plaintiff.
- 17. After illegally searching Plaintiff's vehicle, Defendant Officers could not find anything incriminating or of any interest.
- 18. Plaintiff was wrongfully held in police custody for over an hour without any legitimate reason. Plaintiff did not pose an immediate threat to anyone during this routine traffic stop.
- 19. Defendant Clarke's supervisor arrived on the scene approximately a half hour after Plaintiff was placed in handcuffs and detained in the backseat of the police vehicle.
- 20. Plaintiff asked the supervisor why he was being cuffed and detained but no adequate reason was given.
- 21. After Defendant Officers were finished searching Plaintiff's vehicle, they then told Plaintiff he was detained because he had entered into another lane of travel to pass the police vehicle. Subsequently, Plaintiff was issued a traffic citation for violating traffic duties at a stop sign which is reflected in the docket number CP-51-SA-0001816-2019.
- 22. Defendant Officers later removed the handcuffs and released Plaintiff from the back of the police vehicle.

- 23. Plaintiff then drove the Uber passengers to their destinations.
- 24. Defendants knew or should have known, based on the facts, that Plaintiff did not commit any crime or offense for which an arrest may be lawfully made and yet they still proceeded to arrest and detain Plaintiff.
- 25. At all times during the events described above, Defendant Police Officers were engaged in a joint venture. The individual Defendant Police Officers assisted each other in performing the various actions described and lent their physical presence and support and the authority of their office to each other during the said events.
- 26. As a direct and proximate result of the said acts of Defendant Police Officers, Plaintiff suffered the following injuries and damages:
- a. Violation of his Constitutional rights under the Fourth Amendment to the United States Constitution;
 - b. Loss of physical liberty;
 - c. Emotional injury;
- 27. The actions violated the following clearly established and well-settled federal constitutional rights of Plaintiff and well-settled Pennsylvania law:
 - a. Freedom from unreasonable search and seizure of his person and his car;
- b. Freedom false arrest and imprisonment of Plaintiff's person to a confined and bound area by Defendants.

Causes of Action

COUNT ONE: 42 U.S.C. § 1983 - FOURTH AMENDMENT ILLEGAL SEARCH AND SEZIURE AGAINST ALL DEFENDANTS

28. Paragraphs 1 through 27 are incorporated herein by reference as though fully set forth.

- 29. Defendants caused Plaintiff to be detained and arrested in violation of his right to be secure in his person against unreasonable searches and seizures as guaranteed to him under the Fourth Amendment to the United States Constitution.
- 30. Plaintiff was illegally seized by Defendant Police Officers, acting in concert, when he was improperly removed from his vehicle. These Defendants unreasonably searched Plaintiff without reasonable articulable suspicion or probable cause to believe he had committed a crime. In fact, Defendant Clarke profiled Plaintiff by pulling him over, ordering him out of the car, and searching the vehicle. There was absolutely no reason whatsoever to conduct a search of Plaintiff under these circumstances.
- 31. Defendants illegally searched Plaintiff and his vehicle without consent or any legal justification to do so. Defendants intended to violate Plaintiff's civil rights by their actions. Defendants' actions are a clear case of racial profiling, as the unreasonable search was instigated, at least in part, because of Plaintiff's skin color.
- 32. Moreover, Defendants violated Plaintiff's constitutional Fourth Amendment rights to be free from unreasonable detention and arrest guaranteed by the United States Constitution.
 - 33. Defendants handcuffed Plaintiff and placed him in the back of police vehicle.
- 34. Plaintiff remained in the confines of the police vehicle until Defendants decided to release him. As a result of Defendants' actions, Plaintiff was detained without reasonable suspicion, probable cause, and without a valid warrant.
- 35. As a result of the Defendants' conduct, they are liable for Plaintiff's injuries because they were integral participants in the unreasonable detention and arrest.

- 36. All of the aforementioned acts of the Defendants were carried out under the color of state law and by the Defendants in their individual capacities with all actual and/or apparent authority afforded to police officers.
- 37. All of the aforementioned acts deprived Plaintiff of the rights, privileges, and immunities guaranteed to citizens of the United States by the Fourth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States of America and in violation of 42 U.S.C. § 1983, including right to be free from unreasonable search and seizure.
- 38. Defendants conduct was willful, wanton, malicious, and done with reckless disregard for Plaintiff's rights and safety and, therefore, warrants the imposition of exemplary and punitive damages.
- 39. Plaintiff should, therefore, be compensated for the violation of his Fourth Amendment rights.

COUNT TWO: PENNSYLVANIA TORT LAW - FALSE ARREST AND IMPRISONMENTAGAINST ALL DEFENDANTS

- 40. Paragraphs 1 through 39 are incorporated herein by reference as though fully set forth.
- 41. The acts and conduct of all Defendants as aforesaid caused Plaintiff to be deprived of his right to be free from unlawful detention, to be secure in his person and property and to due process of law guaranteed under the laws and Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.
- 42. Plaintiff was ordered out of his vehicle by Defendants, handcuffed, and confined against his will in the back of a police vehicle.
- 43. Defendants knew there was no probable cause to arrest or legal basis to detain Plaintiff and the arrest and imprisonment of Plaintiff were the result of racial animus and

profiling perpetuated by all Defendants. Defendants intended and caused Plaintiff's restraint and

confinement to the bounded area of the police vehicle for over an hour.

44. As a result of all of Defendants' actions, Plaintiff sustained pain, injury, and

emotional distress all to his detriment.

45. The actions described herein of all Defendants were malicious, intentional, and

displayed with a reckless disregard to the rights, safety, and well-being of Plaintiff, and the

imposition of punitive damages is warranted to deter such future similar conduct.

46. Plaintiff should, therefore, be compensated for the violation of the Pennsylvania

tort of false arrest and imprisonment. Therefore, Plaintiff is entitled to an award of exemplary

and punitive damages in addition to compensatory damages.

Prayer for Relief

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff requests that this Court:

a. Award compensatory damages to Plaintiff against Defendants;

b. Award costs of this action to Plaintiff;

c. Award reasonable attorney's fees and costs to Plaintiff;

d. Award punitive damages to Plaintiff;

e. Award such other and further relief as this Court may deem appropriate.

Demand for Jury Trial

Plaintiff hereby demands a jury trial.

The O'Hanlon Law Firm, P.C.

STEPHEN T. O'HANLON, ESOUIRE

DATE: December 12, 2019

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